

**News Release**  
**U.S. Department of Justice**  
*United States Attorney*  
*District of Rhode Island*



**June 12, 2007**



**44-month federal prison sentence for gun offense  
is added to four-year state sentence**

A federal judge today sentenced **Milquan Lyles**, of Providence, to 44 months in federal prison for being a felon in possession of a firearm. In May 2005, Providence Police officers seized a gun that Lyles had tossed away during a foot pursuit.

United States Attorney Robert Clark Corrente announced the sentence, which Senior U.S. District Court Judge Ernest C. Torres imposed in U.S. District Court, Providence. The federal sentence is consecutive to a four-year state sentence imposed on Lyles in 2005 for violating probation by having the gun.

In March, Lyles, 30, pleaded guilty to being a felon in possession of a firearm. At the plea hearing, Assistant U.S. Attorney Terrence P. Donnelly said the government could prove that, at about 1:30 AM on May 19, 2005, Providence Police officers stopped a car driven by Lyles after it had run a red light at Broad and Cahir Streets. As the officers got out of their cruiser, Lyles sped off. Police chased the car in their cruiser. Lyles then abandoned his car and fled on foot. Officers saw him toss a gun over a fence, retrieved the gun, and found Lyles hiding under the porch of a house.

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Lyles has prior state felony convictions for carrying a pistol without a license and assault with intent to rob. When police seized the gun in 2005, he was on probation after having served a prison sentence for the assault conviction.

Providence Police and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives investigated the case. Assistant U.S. Attorney Donnelly prosecuted it as part of **Project Safe Neighborhoods**, a Department of Justice initiative against gun crimes. Under Project Safe Neighborhoods, the U.S. Attorney's Office, working with Providence Police, ATF, the Rhode Island Attorney General's Office, and other agencies, aggressively prosecutes federal firearms offenses in an effort to incarcerate those responsible for gun violence and deter others from committing gun crimes. Since 2001, federal gun offenders in Rhode Island have been sentenced to a total of more than 800 years in federal prison.

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